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*Zoe Saldana's
galactic ambitions*

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MIDAS touch*

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How haute
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to superstardom*

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EDITOR'S LETTER

LAURA WEIR



COVER

Photograph by Jesse John Jenkins.
Styled by Jenny Kennedy. BOWER bikini
top, £150, at avenue32.com. H. SAMUEL
earrings, £49.99 (hsamuel.co.uk).

London is the greatest city
in the world — team ES
pick their favourite views...



1

From the Royal
Observatory on top of
the hill in Greenwich Park.
Niamh O'Keeffe
Editor's PA

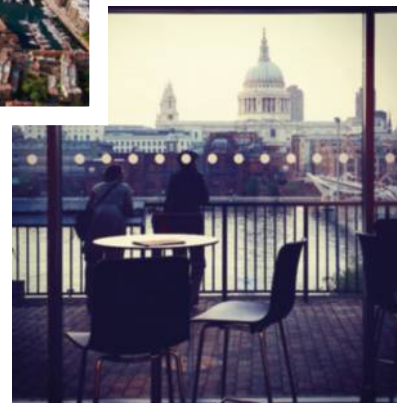


2

I love flying into
London and the view
as you circle in.
Alice-Azania Jarvis
Features editor

3

Through the floor to
ceiling windows at the Tate
Modern overlooking the
Thames onto St Paul's.
Tilly Macalister-Smith
Fashion features director



My parents just went kayaking
on the Thames and the view of
the Houses of Parliament was
pretty incredible.

Nicky Yates
Fashion director



My vote goes to King Henry's Mound
in Richmond Park — panoramic
views over the city from the
beautiful surroundings of the park,
and very cute roaming deer to boot!

Clara Dorrington
Picture desk assistant

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Editor **Laura Weir**

Features director **Anna van Praagh** Fashion director **Nicky Yates** Fashion features director **Tilly Macalister-Smith** Art director **Rasha Kahil**

Features editor **Alice-Azania Jarvis**
Commissioning editor **Dipal Acharya**
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Features writer **Samuel Fishwick**
Lifestyle assistant **Lily Worcester**

Office administrator/editor's PA **Niamh O'Keeffe**

Deputy chief sub editor **Matt Hryciw**

Contributing editors **Lucy Carr-Ellison, James Corden, Hermione Eyre, Richard Godwin, Daisy Hoppen, Jemima Jones, Anthony Kendal, David Lane, Annabel Rivkin, Joe Scotland, Hikari Yokoyama**

Group client strategy director **Deborah Rosenegk** Head of magazines **Christina Irvine**

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CAPITAL GAINS

What to do in London

BY SAMUEL FISHWICK



Wall-to-Wall COVERAGE

It's just like watching Brazil... Brazilian street artists, anyway. The Horniman Museum has invited a selection to decorate the walls of Forest Hill with a series of urban murals. (horniman.ac.uk)



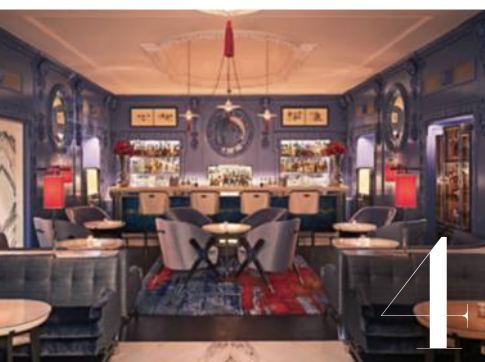
SOUNDS OF THE SUMMER

Laura Mvula sings to the moon, and 3,000 fans, at Somerset House's outdoor Summer Series gigs with new material from her latest album, *The Dreaming Room*. 10 July. Tickets £29.50 (somersethouse.org.uk)



FAST AND FURIOUS

Fury, the latest from Soho Theatre, by Phoebe Eclair-Powell, 27, and directed by Hannah Hauer-King, 26, is by young Londoners, about young Londoners, for young Londoners. Tickets £14 (sohotheatre.com)



True BLUE

The Berkeley's legendary Blue Bar reopens with a swish new glass pavilion designed by Sir Richard Rogers and an arsenal of 'cocktails with true colour', with potency levels ranging from subtle (greens), via moderate (reds) to strong (blues). (the-berkeley.co.uk)



THAT'S RICHIE

Hello. Is it Lionel Richie you're looking for? US photographer Alan Silfen's previously unseen shots — on show at Bar 45 — feature the pop icon with Princess Diana, Frank Sinatra and Tina Turner, among others. Until 29 July. 45 Park Lane, W1 (dorchestercollection.com)



KIT BAG

Kit & Ace's new Monmouth Street location means its trademark cashmeres and silks get a new home, but there's also a supper club and in-store foosball table.

Game on!
15 Monmouth Street, WC2 (kitandace.com)



Jungle BOOGIE

The REAL king of the swingers, Tarzan, gets a steamy CGI makeover in *The Legend of Tarzan*, with Margot Robbie (left) and a topless Alexander Skarsgård pulling the vines. Go ape. Out now.

LAST CHANCE: For cocktails, Mark Hix tapas and tunes from a Pacha Ibiza DJ at the **Gin Mare pop-up** in Knightsbridge. Until 8 July (medrooftops.com)

LOOK AHEAD: Missed out on Glastonbury? Stay in London and dance your socks off at Victoria Park's **Citadel Festival**. 17 July. Tickets £54.45 (citadelfestival.com)

UPFRONT

Laura Craik on Nineties Britpop nostalgia, armband sleeves and post-Brexit Facebook

I'm scared to buy anything. A shiny big Matches delivery would cheer me up, but once the adrenaline's worn off, I'd realise that no, I do not look like Susie Bick in my new Vampire's Wife dress, and am merely £565 poorer. But since a life without clicking 'buy now' is no good for the economy, (and also, no life at all), I've been buying little things instead. This is why there is a tube of Bathroom Grout Refresher on the kitchen table.

Still, if ever there was a time to get away with wearing your old clothes, it's now. Bonus points if you can unearth anything from the early Nineties. Even before Eurogeddon, fashion was in the throes of a long and passionate love affair with nostalgia. For all bar the wealthiest Londoners, the current economic uncertainties have elevated a trend to an imperative.

With the sort of freakish timing that will make Nike weep, Adidas has released a new ad campaign featuring a reworked archive image of Kate Moss, cross-legged on a sofa, wearing a spaghetti-strap vest (obvs – it was the Nineties) and a pair of Gazelles. The original shot was taken in 1993, and no one who lived through the heady days of Britpop could fail to be transported back to a time when all you had to worry about was whether Blur was better than Oasis. The fresh-faced beauty of a 20-year-old Moss, hair scraped back in a messy pigtail (there were no Braid Bars then), feels like a slap in the face from Father Time. As Bowie sang on one of his last (and most poignant) singles, where are we now?

While the fashion, club and music scenes were vibrant, 1993 itself was no picnic. This was the year that unemployment reached three million, Bishopsgate was bombed and Ukip was formed. Which only goes to show that rose-tinted glasses might be on trend, but they aren't always useful. Bad things have always happened to good people. It's how you deal with them that will decide your fate. I can't run the country. But I can dig out my old Gazelles, listen to 'Slide Away' and try to feel better about life. And then I can regROUT the bathroom.

SLEEVE PEEVE

Admittedly, there are bigger things to worry about than Chris Martin, but I'm a non-discriminatory worrier this month: all worries are welcome, however great or small. Today's perturbation is that the Coldplay frontman has gotten an ill-advised tattoo. Maybe he got 'Gwyneth Forever' turned into a hummingbird, and it went wrong, and now his upper arm looks like it was scribbled on by an angry toddler. How



"If ever there was a time to get away with wearing your old clothes, it's now"

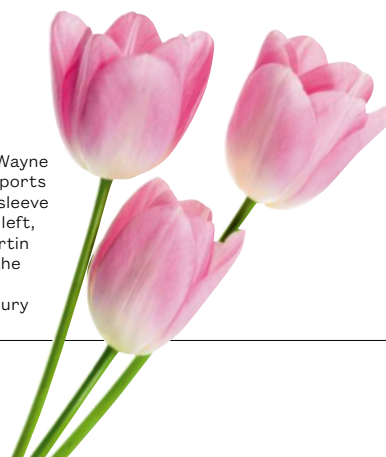
else to explain his surgical attachment to that long-sleeved white T-shirt? He even wore it on the Pyramid Stage at Glastonbury, yet surely it wasn't that cold — what with all his weird, shamanic dancing. The next thing you know, Wayne Rooney's wearing one during the England v Iceland match. Who's next to sport the bandaged arm look?

FACEBOOK LOVE

I've always been a bit wary of Facebook compared with Twitter: getting into long, heated arguments with people you know has always seemed worse than getting into short, 140-character ones with strangers. Post-Brexit, my interest in FB has been rekindled, namely because of all the joyful stories people are sharing in a bid to cheer each other up. Praise be for the Bristol school kids who gave out flowers to strangers, the Londoners who set up Operation Scone and the cards of support flooding into Hammersmith's Polish Centre in apology. Kindness is everything.



Far left: Wayne Rooney sports the long-sleeve look and, left, Chris Martin started the trend at Glastonbury



Left: Kate Moss in the new campaign. Far left: Gigi Hadid and Alexa Chung, both wearing Gazelles. Bottom: Bristol school kids have been handing out flowers to strangers



HOT

HEDI SLIMANE

Just won €13m to have his post-Saint Laurent non-compete clause honoured. The drinks are on him!

NOT

#BEYOUR

STUBBORNBEST

Sarah Vine's email sign off was funny until you remember it's stubbornness that got us into this mess.



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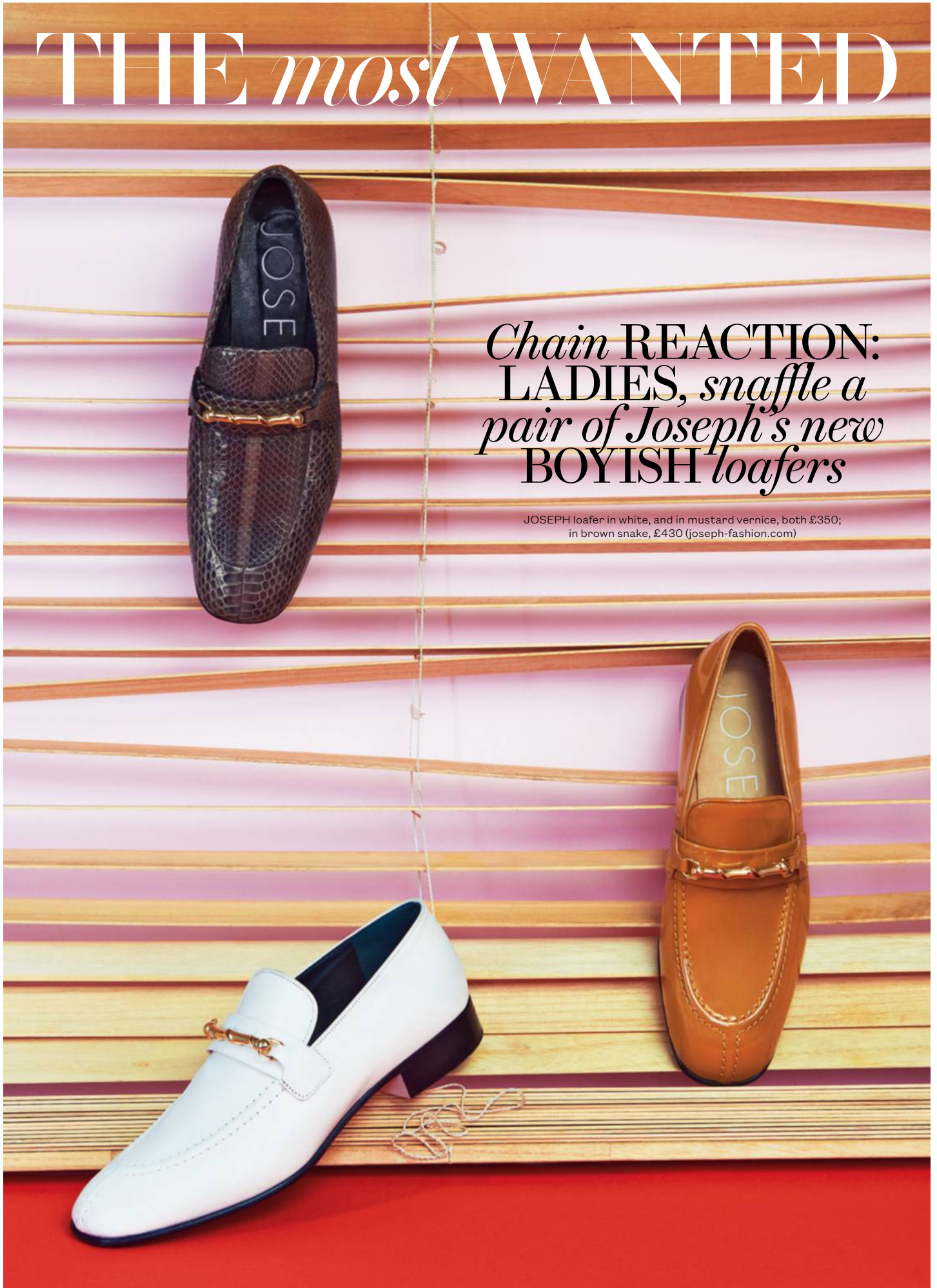
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pair of Joseph's new
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JOSEPH loafer in white, and in mustard vernice, both £350;
in brown snake, £430 (joseph-fashion.com)



FLASHBULB!

Party pictures from around town

BY SAMUEL FISHWICK PHOTOGRAPHS BY JAMES PELTEKIAN

Tim Minchin

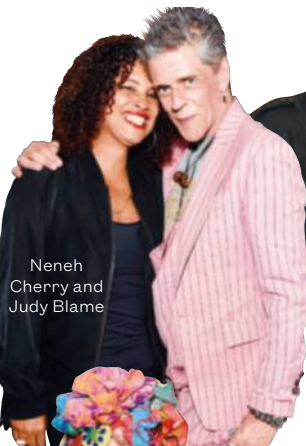


Kate Reardon and Natalie Massenet

Joely Richardson



Sally Greene and Cate Blanchett



Neneh Cherry and Judy Blame



Bryan Ferry and Philip Treacy



Thandie Newton

PLAY THINGS

The Brewery, Barbican

Stanley Tucci and Catherine Tate hosted the Old Vic's summer gala, where comedian Tim Minchin tinkled the ivories. The fundraiser, which brought in £500,000, saw Ms Tate make a post-Brexit call for 'pledges in anything apart from pounds,' after the currency plunged.

DRINK Espresso martinis and Taittinger champagne



Catherine Tate and Stanley Tucci



Guy and Jacqui Ritchie



Bethan Laura Wood

BLAME GAME

Judy Blame, auteur extraordinaire, opened his *Never Again* exhibition at the ICA, with the host sporting a phallic pendant. 'Nice phallus,' we said. 'Thanks,' said Blame, 'that's the first time someone's said that to me in a while.'

DRINK Peroni,

Absolut Elyx and Blackwell Rum with Fentiman's Ginger Beer



Juergen Teller

How's life in a post-EU Britain, JUERGEN TELLER?

I've already lost money on Brexit: my staff spent the day talking about it instead of working!



Portia Freeman

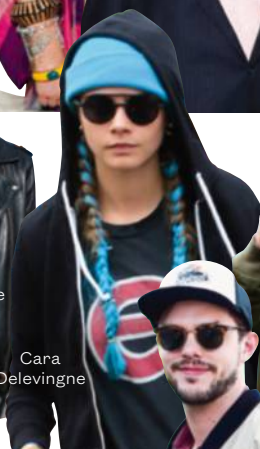
Gemma Cairney



Poppy Delevingne



Cara Delevingne



Pixie Geldof and Nick Grimshaw



Millie Mackintosh and Whinnie Williams



Laura Whitmore



DIRTY WEEKEND

Worthy Farm, Somerset

London's party circuit ditched bolly for brollies at this year's Glastonbury. Gemma Chan bolted from the EE Garden at Glastonbury to catch Craig David's 'epic' Sunday set, while boyfriend Jack Whitehall found somewhere to watch the football; Cara Delevingne snuck us into the secret inner sanctum of the Rabbit Hole where no amount of mud could slow down her dancing feet.



Natalie Dormer in Hunter Original jacket



Alex Turner



Nicholas Hoult in Hunter Original jacket

Ollie Alexander





JIMMY CHOO

ILLICIT FLOWER

THE NEW FRAGRANCE

There are very few directors who will discriminate based on gender or race — studios would do that,’ says Zoe Saldana, perching on the edge of the large, beige sofa of her hotel room in Atlanta. Above her hangs a generic portrait of autumn leaves, presumably designed to create a soothing ambience. Saldana, however, is very far from calm. ‘Studios are the ones that are not green-lighting black projects, they’re the ones

that are sending internal emails and laughing. And bullying women and bullying people of colour.’ How does the actress, personally, tackle that? ‘I am turning down roles that are objectifying or gratuitous. I am speaking up. And I am stepping down as well. Sometimes by saying “no”, you’re helping — you’re contributing to a greater good.’ As for equal pay: ‘Women have been compelled to be quiet for too long,’ she argues, hands whirling and jabbing the air to punctuate her points. ‘We have to shed light on things that are obviously unfair, uneven, unequal — things that should be illegal.’

In a year in which Hollywood’s female stars have begun challenging the disparity in pay with that of their male co-stars, Saldana is taking the fight one step further: ‘Right now, my biggest battle is the package that I’m asking for.’ When signing up to a film that requires her to work away from home for long stretches, the 38-year-old — who has twin sons, Bowie and Cy, 19 months old — has begun demanding extra compensation for childcare to pay for a full-time nanny to travel with the family. ‘It should not be considered a perk,’ she says, matter-of-factly. ‘I’m not asking for a masseuse on set. I’m asking you to pay for my children to have proper care, so that I can give your film the proper care it needs too.’

Given her schedule, you can understand her request. We meet in Atlanta, where she’s currently filming the Marvel

sci-fi juggernaut *Guardians of the Galaxy 2* alongside Chris Pratt and Bradley Cooper. She’s almost five months into the six-month shoot: ‘I’ve been travelling now for a year,’ she says, chugging hard on a huge bottle of water. ‘The boys were only six months old when we went to Vancouver for five months to make *Star Trek Beyond*, and then I had to go to Savannah [in Georgia] to film *Live by Night*, Ben Affleck’s movie [due out next year]. We’re such nomads, but I do miss home in LA.’

It’s the former film that we are here to talk about today. The £112m *Star Trek Beyond* is the third instalment in the rebooted franchise, in which Saldana plays Nyota Uhura, communications officer of the USS *Enterprise*. The crew is halfway into a five-year mission, and, not unlike the actress herself, is feeling the strain of an extended stretch away from home. Saldana, who today is clad in a Trek-appropriate outfit — a red leather Isabel Marant top, black skinny pedal pushers and vertiginous Jimmy Choo heels — makes no apologies for her mainstream career choices, which include James Cameron’s 2009 epic *Avatar*. ‘In a world where there’s so much turmoil, maybe what our children need is to believe in superheroes,’ she posits. ‘I can beat myself up and think, “Oh my god, I’m making the worst career decisions, and I’m doing all these films back to back.” Or, I can look into the eyes of a little girl who needs a female action hero.’

“Demanding extra compensation for childcare should not be considered a perk. I’m not asking for a masseuse on set”

Nevertheless, promoting the film has been tinged with sadness. Soon after we meet, one of its stars, 27-year-old Anton Yelchin, who played Pavel Chekov, navigator of the *Enterprise*, died after his two-tonne jeep rolled into him and trapped him against a pillar outside his home in Studio City, California. Saldana says the cast and crew have been left ‘broken-hearted’ by the incident. In the wake of his death, she posted an emotional tribute on her Instagram page: ‘Your life has been cut short, but I will always tell everyone about you. You were kind, present, old-souled, curious, brilliant, funny, humble, honest and undeniably talented. Goodbye Anton, it was an honour to have crossed paths with you.’

Born in New Jersey to a Puerto Rican mother and a father from the Dominican Republic, and with two sisters, Cisely and Mariel, Saldana was, she says, ‘raised in a tribe where the predominant energy was feminine, and there’s a lot of strength and freedom in that.

We were never discouraged. We got used to expressing our opinions and hearing the sound of our own voices.’

She spent her childhood years in Jackson Heights, New York, but after the



Zoe Saldana at this year's Met Ball



Beam me up, *ZOE...*

With leading roles in *Star Trek* and *Avatar* Zoe Saldana has proved her box-office pulling power — but she's not stopping there. The actress talks smashing Hollywood's glass ceiling with *Jane Mulkerrins*



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death of her father, who was killed in a car accident when she was nine, her mother, Asalia, moved the family to Santo Domingo, the capital of the Dominican Republic, where Asalia worked by day as a courtroom translator, and by night as a hotel maid to support the family, while Saldana's grandmother sold her jewellery to pay for the three girls to be privately educated. A promising dancer, she trained in classical ballet at the well-regarded Ritmos Espacio de Danza academy. Later, when the family returned to New York following her second year in high school, she began performing in the New York Youth Theater, and in 2000 won her first film role, as a headstrong ballet student in the teen drama *Center Stage*, directed by the British director (and former artistic director of the National Theatre) Nicholas Hytner.

But it wasn't until nine years later, when she was cast in *Star Trek* and *Avatar*, that she became a household name. Filming is soon to begin on the next four instalments of *Avatar*, which will be made back-to-back. 'That will take forever,' she says, with a roll of her almond-shaped eyes. The lengthy production will, at least, take place in Los Angeles. 'And I'm looking forward to putting Neytiri (the alien hunter she plays in the sci-fi epic) back on,' she enthuses. 'She is a wonderful person. But I wasn't even 30 when we first started filming; now I'm pushing 40. When they come to do the cast of my face [for motion capture], I'm going to be like, "But you guys, we already have it." They'll be like, "Honey, that's from 10 years ago..."'

Earlier this year, Saldana's face sparked something of a furore following the release of the biopic *Nina*. For her role as the late singer and activist Nina Simone, her skin was darkened and she wore a prosthetic nose, causing widespread criticism from commentators, social media and even members of Simone's family. Saldana hit back at those who accused her of modern-day 'blackface', claiming 'there's no one way to be black'.

When I raise the subject, her publicist interjects to say that Saldana will not answer any questions on it. She will, however, discuss the situation for black actors in Hollywood. While this year's Oscars prompted consternation over the lack of racial diversity, there has been progress, says Saldana. 'Idris Elba is Krall [a predatory villain in *Star Trek Beyond*]; Lupita Nyong'o is Raksha, the mother wolf in Disney's *The Jungle Book*, and she's in *Star Wars*. Before Lupita and before Idris, and before me as Neytiri, these roles were going to "traditional" actors.'

Saldana's husband is the Italian artist Marco Perego, whom she married in secret in London in 2013. They had been with each other for just three months. The couple, who had met years earlier through mutual friends, bumped into one another again on a plane. 'He gave me his information, and I did something I'd never done before — I called him.' At home in L.A., Perego speaks to their sons entirely in Italian, while Saldana



Saldana with her husband, Marco Perego, left. With John Cho in *Star Trek Beyond*, below



"It feels right that a man should grant his partner the right of debating why she should keep her own name"

speaks to them only in Spanish. 'They're going to speak English eventually,' she reasons.

The couple have adopted each other's surnames: she is Zoe Saldana-Perego, he is Marco Perego-Saldana, as are Bowie and Cy. 'I've had relationships with great people but their concept of gender [roles] was very limited and that was always disheartening,' says Saldana, whose ex-boyfriends include her former fiancé, the actor Keith Britton, who she dated for 11 years, and Bradley Cooper, who she was with for two.

'Being with someone like Marco, it's not that it feels easy, it just feels right,' she says. 'It feels right that a man should at least grant his partner the right of debating why she should keep her name, and why their children should keep her name. I met my counterpart, I met my match. We don't fight each other, we fight together.'

Before we part, I wonder how disappointed Saldana, the daughter of two immigrants, is with the anti-immigration rhetoric that has become a mainstay of Donald Trump's presidential campaign. 'I'm not going to give up on America,' she says, defiantly. 'I'm raising black men in America. And I need to be part of making sure that the America they're going to be living in deserves them.' Anyway, she adds: 'I think that what's happening right now is going to be talked about and laughed about in future, over a delicious, crisp glass of champagne.'

Star Trek Beyond is out on 22 July

ADDED SALT

Don't need it. At Jordans, we get all the flavour we need from the quality ingredients we source. Of course, some blander cereals need to add salt just to get some taste in the bowl. But 40 years of making granola has taught us not to add anything you don't need. Which is also why we don't wear flares anymore.



NOT IN OUR NATURE

On top of everything Brexit brings, holidays on European coastlines are now in doubt. Firstly, the pound doesn't stretch very far, and

those no frills holidays are suddenly looking quite expensive. Secondly, we are persona non grata on the continent. The solution? Keep it domestic, stiffen that upper lip and return to the British, deck-chaired holidays of your youth.

As anyone who has sat in Toulouse Airport at the mercy of French baggage handlers will tell you, travelling is a hassle anyway. Plus, the British coast is in fashion –

Taylor Swift and Tom Hiddleston (right) paddled on a Suffolk beach this month. So where will you be going?



BARAFUNDLE BAY PEMBROKESHIRE

Barafundle Bay is Cornwall without the crowds. The beach is remote: clamber down sand dunes after parking half a mile away. The result? It's wholly unspoiled, with velvety sand, translucent waters and grizzled cliffs. Stay at the Stackpole Inn (stackpoleinn.co.uk), an archetypal British country inn, with thatched roofs, low rafters, and ivy coiling across bleached stone. Nearer the beach, there's the Boathouse Tea Room, don't miss the ploughman's lunch (nationaltrust.org.uk/stackpole). You can also hunt for treasure at Carew Market and Car Boot Sale (carewairfield.com).



Barafundle Bay, Pembrokeshire

Oh we do like to be beside the sea...



Bit on the SEASIDE

Thanks to Brexit, we're the pariahs of Europe – and an ice cream on the continent costs double what it used to. Good thing the British coast is having a moment, says *Phoebe Luckhurst*

HOLKHAM NORTH NORFOLK

Declared one of the country's best beaches for snogging by Tatler ('no pesky lifeguards to tell you off') Holkham has serious posh pedigree: Princes William and Harry played on the beach as toddlers, and William and Kate now live half an hour inland. Stay at the Victoria Inn (holkham.co.uk/stay-eat/the-victoria-inn) and eat the

whitebait – it's sourced from beaches merely moments away. Alternatively, the Globe Inn (theglobeatwells.co.uk) rents out beach huts, the area's most coveted real estate: in 2012, one reportedly sold for £69,000.

Make sure you drive up the coast to eerie Cromer to visit the Gunton Arms: its run by art dealer Ivor Braka and the kitchen is overseen by Stuart Tattersall and Simone Baker, alumni of Mark Hix's restaurants.



SHOREHAM-BY-SEA WEST SUSSEX

Brighton seduces the crowds – so while they're all in the queue for the bucking Bronco on the pier, you can be down the coast in Shoreham-by-Sea (pictured above). Bright sailboats sit in the calm harbour; a local says sunsets by the waterside, where the light bends over the bridge, are spectacular. Drink at The Crab Tree (thecrabtreeinn.co.uk) where the garden stretches out, expansively – like you after sharing a generous seafood mezze (plaice goujons, scampi and garlic crevettes).





The seafront promenade, Southwold, Suffolk

YELLOWCRAIG EAST LoTHIAN

If you're used to sun-drenched beaches, taking a holiday to the east coast of Scotland is a baptism of fire, where 'fire' means slanting rain and merciless winds. But Scotland, like London, voted Remain – you have a kinship with these people now (#ScotLond). Yellowcraig's cove looks out onto the lighthouse at Fidra Island, the inspiration for Robert Louis Stevenson's Treasure Island.

Nearby Dirleton has a castle with award-winning gardens. The Castle Inn (castleinndirleton.com) is a small inn which serves creamy soups, warming indeed.

RHOSSILI BEACH THE GOWER PENINSULA

Rhossili Bay is astonishingly beautiful – though its model looks are also thanks to the hewn surfers toting boards under sinewy arms, who covet the three miles of sandy shore where waves swell strong and fast from the Atlantic. They chat ripcurls at the Bay Bistro (thebaybistro.co.uk): the 'bendylegs' granola steels them before they throw themselves at the waves. Next door is Sam's Surf Shack: a higgledy-piggledy pile of boards, wetsuits and locally-made jewellery (when in Rhossili).

Stay slightly inland at the Fairyhill in Reynoldston (fairyhill.net): ivy snakes around the grey stone exterior and the generous rooms have exposed rafters and plush headboards.

SOUTHWOLD SUFFOLK

Southwold's star power belies its size: it's essentially a single road, a lighthouse, and a (beautiful) beach on which are positioned some astonishingly expensive beach huts, but celebrities love it. Second homers include Richard Curtis, David Morrissey and Damien Hirst. Have high tea at The Swan (adnams.co.uk/hotels/the-swan), a 350-year old hotel positioned two minutes from the seaside.

COMPTON BAY ISLE OF WIGHT

If a staycation seems like a cop-out, the short ferry journey to the Isle of Wight is reminiscent of a Channel crossing (cheerful; no frills; rubbish pints). The best spot is the quiet Compton Bay in West Wight: a two-mile stretch of sandstone cliffs. There are dinosaur footprints exposed at low tide. Slurp pints at The Sun Inn (sunhulverstone.co.uk), rumoured to be used by smugglers in the 16th century.

SEAHOUSES NORTHUMBERLAND

Northumberland's spare coastline delivers extensive pickings for beach-combers. Bamburgh is the most famous – the velvety dunes sit in the shadow of the inscrutable Bamburgh Castle (once the home of Sir Lancelot, apparently), but we recommend Football Hole beach – cast your eyes off coast: you might see dolphins. Stay in the bijou village of Seahouses. The Olde Ship Inn (seahouses.co.uk) is packaged like an old North sea-faring vessel. The Lower Deck has a huge 4-poster and over-looks the harbour. Try Swallowfish seafood (swallowfish.co.uk).



Mill Bay, Salcombe, Devon



WATERGATE BAY CORNWALL

Watergate Bay is for surfers and Londoners looking for big sky. Jamie Oliver's Fifteen (fifteencornwall.co.uk) is where everyone has breakfast either before or after hitting the waves. The Beach Hut (watergatebay.co.uk) is positioned right on the sand; it serves up fresh seafood and views of cresting waves licking the caramel sand. Stay at Watergate Bay Hotel (watergatebay.co.uk): a chic and cheerful Soho House-esque space which runs its own watersports school all year round.

SALCOMBE DEVON

Salcombe has been nicknamed Chelsea-on-Sea and its coastline – lush cliffs, white houses, triangular sailing boats tacking across the horizon – suggests the languid privilege of the capital's wealthiest borough. But it's certainly not soulless: bohemian empress Kate Bush has a house in the area, it's an official Area of Natural Beauty and off the main drag, you'll find sand ('demerara-soft', promises one visitor) and secluded coves for rockpooling. Stay at Salcombe Harbour Hotel (salcombe-harbour-hotel.co.uk), which has its own on-site luxury spa.



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How Haute is your H2O?

From cocktail bars serving speciality blends to £150 bottles, mineral water has had a high-end makeover. But is it worth splashing out, asks Rebecca Newman

Do you remember the days when a bottle of Badoit seemed *recherché*? When the idea of spending £5 on 500ml of water shipped from Fiji seemed absurd? Well, blame fitspo, the endless pictures of Rosie Huntington-Whiteley et al clutching bottles to their well-exercised chests, and the general elevation of wellness, but somehow water – the stuff of life – has become a status symbol.

This autumn, Selfridges will launch a new ground-floor bar, The Source, serving charcoal water (water which has been infused with or filtered through charcoal), alkaline-filtered water, and botanical water infusions. In LA, restaurants – such as Ray's & Stark Bar – boast water sommeliers. And the super-rich are splashing their cash on Fillico Jewelry Water from Japan, which costs more than Dom Pérignon, fluid oz for fluid oz. Sold in a Swarovski-crystal-studded bottle, one litre is a cool £150.

For that sort of money, you'd hope you're paying for something more than just bog-standard H2O in a fancy bottle. Fillico comes from the Rokko Mountains in Kobe, Japan, where the granite rocks are said to enhance the minerals present. But its promised benefits pale in comparison with Veren Water, available at Harrods for £12.95 for 750ml. Only 3,000 bottles are gathered each year, condensed from vapour in the air over the Florida Keys. As well as being rich in calcium and magnesium, Veren's creators claim it's free from the chloride (which, in excess, can increase blood pressure) and fluoride (which disrupts the endocrine system and can decrease bone density) used to sanitise many conventional bottled waters.

'A lot of essential minerals get depleted so mineral waters can be a great way to

Liquid Assets

1. Pimp your water on the cheap. The reusable Black+Blum Eau Carafe (£29.95) will turn tap into charcoal water.
2. Buy a BPA-free water bottle. BPA (Bisphenol-A) is a chemical found in plastic bottles which has been linked to obesity and diabetes.
3. At home, store table water in glass bottles; they're more eco and free of harmful chemicals.
4. Fit taps with filters such as the PureH2O (£29/month), which pushes water through a membrane to purify.

restore them,' says Lee Mullins, founder of the Workshop Gymnasium at the Bulgari Hotel. 'They tend to be rich in potassium which is crucial for our heart, muscle and nervous-system functions, as well as zinc, which is good for hair and nails, and magnesium which is one of the most common minerals people lack.'

'It's key for calming the body down and is involved in hundreds of chemical reactions in the body.'

Then there are the various speciality waters offering not just purity but added benefits.

Alkaline waters

such as Blk (also available at Harrods, £3.45 for 500ml) promise an abundance of antioxidants and electrolytes – which tend to get depleted by exercise – while, supposedly, helping balance the body's pH levels. And advocates of charcoal water swear by its cleansing and digestion-aiding properties.

Not everyone is so enthusiastic. 'It's a waste of money,' says nutritionist Eve Kalinik. Hydro-geologist Paul Younger agrees: 'If tap water is safe to drink anywhere, it is London.' He believes residual chlorine can be beneficial, making it resistant to bacteria, and doubts concerns raised over oestrogen in the water supply. For those still wary, Kalinik recommends PureH2O, a filter which pushes water through an advanced membrane.

Such a filter also removes the need for a disposable container – no bad thing as London generates two million plastic bottles every day. But if you're caught on the run, ethical choices are available. As part of their Project Ocean initiative, Selfridges has replaced brands using plastic bottles with those using glass such as Elm Spring and Pedras, and at last month's Graduate Fashion Week, the FROW toted CanO Water made from recyclable aluminium, while Boxed Water Is Better uses cardboard. Then there's Belu, which donates all its profits to WaterAid. While posh water probably won't make a world of difference to our health, but how we consume it might make a good deal of difference to the world.





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STYLE NOTES

What we love now

EDITED BY TILLY MACALISTER-SMITH

CHRISTIAN DIOR gilt metal pendant earrings c. 1985-1995, £128

CÉLINE gilt metal necklace c. 2000, £108



Trunk ARCHIVE

What if you could wear that film-star necklace or carry your fantasy handbag for a night? Check in to The Berkeley Hotel and you can thanks to Fashion Trunk, a service launched in partnership with fashion site Vestiaire Collective. Vintage accessories are hand-picked by Vestiaire's co-founder Fanny Moizant and guests in the hotel's suites can borrow them for free. Talk about room service. *From 1 August* (the-berkeley.co.uk)



Leandra Medine

TEAM BUILDING

Fashion funny girl and street-style sensation Leandra Medine, aka Man Repeller, has teamed up with British brand Atea Oceanie to create a capsule collection of shirt dresses, blazers and knits. Make like Medine and layer pieces for 'I just threw it on' appeal. *From £155* (ateaoceanie.com)



OSMAN dress, £395

ADD TO BASKET: Osman

Think of Osman's new Perfect Five as a lesson in fashion maths. Five wardrobe cornerstones – trousers, tops, dresses, coats and knits – each in five iterations. 'It's a modular way of dressing,' says the designer from his Waterloo studio. 'Everything is carefully thought through to go together.' Our favourite? The giant bow shirt dress. *From £345 at Browns, matchesfashion.com, Harvey Nichols and Selfridges*

InSTARglam

Christian Luiten is the 22-year-old mastermind behind Avant Arte, an app he describes as 'Tinder for art', which connects galleries and artists around the world. @avant.art



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MANGO top, £8.99 (shop.mango.com)



KURT GEIGER shoes, £69 (kurtgeiger.com)



MARELLA bag, £73 (marella.com)



TOPSHOP skirt, £35 (topshop.com)



WAREHOUSE earrings, £5 (warehouse.co.uk)

SALE ALERT!

We've had more than enough clouds this summer, so here's the silver lining: sale picks to make your heart – and wallet – rejoice!

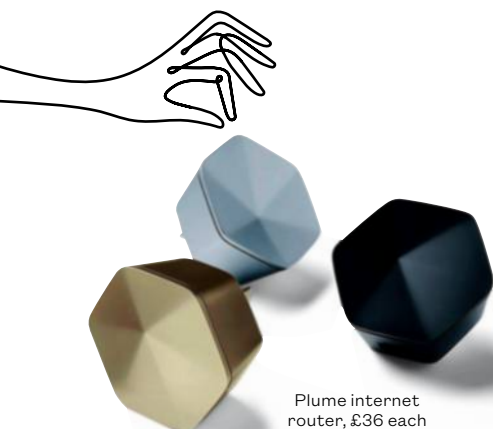
MEN'S STYLE

What to buy now

BY ANISH PATEL

What a KICK BACK

The hunger for retro trainers has never been greater, so it explains why this summer, heavy-hitting sports brands are delving back into their archives and reissuing forgotten classics. These are our favourites so far:



LIKE A SUPER ROUTER

Sick of the wheel of death while watching Netflix? You're in luck. California-based company Plume is launching a smart new range of super-powered internet routers designed for individual rooms in your home that will boost download and streaming capability on your smart device or laptop. Pre-order from Plume (plumewifi.com).

BIG BEN'S

bit on the side

Ben Machell on how to make better use of your life online



It's easy, these days, to become jaded by life online. The pass-ag Facebook beefs with people whose opinions are slightly different from

yours. The emotional trauma of seeing someone else racking up the RTs for a tweet that was basically the same as the one you did but just slightly funnier and with no spelling mistakes. That crushing shame you feel the nanosecond after joylessly wolfing down your third Deliveroo order of the week. Add a lean week on Tinder to this already toxic mix and a genuine despondency can set in. Bad times.

This was me — apart from the Tinder thing, obviously, because I'm not some kind of insane sex deviant — until last week. Then my world changed. I discovered a corner of the internet that, for the first time in a long time, made me feel hopeful. I discovered the warm, caring world of instructional DIY videos — thousands of homemade YouTube clips posted by practical looking men and women with fleece tops and regional accents who simply want to show you exactly how to replace a fan oven element or drain a dishwasher, both of which I have since done. They want to make your life easier, and for no discernible gain.

"I discovered a corner of the internet that, for the first time, made me feel hopeful"

I'm particularly obsessed with a guy called Lee, who looks like he'd be very good at football and who knows how to do everything from sharpening lawnmower blades to replacing tumble dryer thermostats. What Zoella is to tweenage, girls, Lee is to me.

I'm not embarrassed about this, because I suck at DIY and Lee is helping me finally convince both my girlfriend and society as a whole that I am, in fact, an adult man. My girlfriend, in particular, has needed some convincing, mainly because she's so bloody practical and determined. No joke — she's like one of those women you see in 1920s Soviet constructivist propaganda posters, mining coal, breastfeeding children and assembling tanks simultaneously. But thanks to these videos and the white knights who make them, I'm getting to a point where I can look her in the eye. I mean, Jesus, I replaced the element at the back of our oven so we could eat chicken kiev again! I drained the dishwasher! I did, to be fair, drain it onto our kitchen floor which has now warped beyond recognition. Now I'm just waiting for Lee to do a video telling me how to fix that.

Hangover REMEDIES

It doesn't matter how you got drunk last night, it happened. And now you have to handle your hangover in the worst possible place: the office. Though your headache may linger, here are a few grooming hacks that'll help offset the effects of a night on the tiles...



1. REJUVENATED H₂O NIGHT REPAIR
Alcohol dehydrates the skin but this hypotonic rehydrator (in tablet form) laughs in the face of Lucozade, replacing the essential salts that have been pushed out of your system by the previous night's adventures.

2. LAB SERIES DAILY MOISTURE DEFENSE LOTION
When it comes to moisturiser, you need to roll out the big guns. This lotion with SPF15 will help draw moisture back into your skin with its rich formula.

3. ORIGINS COOLING ROLL-ON
Evidence of an all-nighter is most noticeable around your eyes. This roll-on helps de-puff baggy eyes as well as brighten dark circles.



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No harshness. No dryness. Just kindness.
Our new softer than silk wipes are extra tough on
make-up but not on skin. The new aqualock™ pack
keeps every wipe as fresh and effective as the first.
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About a girl

Becoming a woman was always her dream. Now she's the most famous transgender model in the world. Andreja Pejić tells Richard Godwin her incredible story

PHOTOGRAPHS BY JESSE JOHN JENKINS
STYLING BY JENNY KENNEDY

The painter, Turner, once called the skies over Margate the loveliest in all of Europe. But that's not the case today. Instead, they look like an extra-gloomy Rothko painting — *Disappointment in Grey*, perhaps. But our swimwear model is not complaining as she sips her tea in the Sands Hotel. To spend a day cavorting in bikinis is a dream come true for Andreja Pejić, something she has wanted to do ever since she was a he.

'When I was little, the idea of waking up as a girl was like a fairy tale,' she says. 'I had this idea that I'd meet a witch who would transform me. From the moment I found out that it was actually possible, I went to bed each night feeling that when it happens, it will be the best day of my life. And it was!'

Pejić, 24, is probably the world's most famous transgender model — and certainly the one who has been on the most extraordinary journey. Born Andrej Pejić in Bosnia in 1991, she moved to Melbourne, Australia, as a political refugee aged eight, with her mother, Jadranka, and younger brother, Igor. She was scouted as a male model at 17, moved to London and became what she calls 'an inbetween alien'. In 2011, she modelled both male and female collections for Jean Paul Gaultier in Paris and was named by *FHM* as one of the 100 Sexiest Women in the World.

In early 2014, Pejić completed the transition from male to female — and subsequently

made the transition from avant-garde curio to blonde bombshell. Now represented by Storm Management, she has become the first (openly) transgender model to be profiled by *American Vogue*; the first to front a cosmetics campaign, for Make Up for Ever — 'That was before Caitlyn Jenner, thank you!' — and a campaigner for trans acceptance at a time when gender fluidity is in the spotlight.

Flaunting her new curves on the beach is very much part of her mission: 'I'm not a 19-year-old alien anymore, I'm a mature woman. Instead of trying to be the queen of cool, it feels like more of an achievement to work with mainstream brands and reach as many people as possible. It's more unexpected for someone like me.'

"My mum would say sometimes: 'Do you think you might be gay?'"

She seems so comfortable in her skin, it's hard to imagine her as the shy teenager she describes. She is 6ft 1in, and has long, blonde hair that brushes the sides of her pale, open face. She turns up in a monochrome ensemble — 'I'm in a Seventies vibe at the moment but I like to keep it quite classic' — complete with a white feathery jacket and round Kurt Cobain-style shades. Her voice is a warm alto, and she speaks with a rising Melbourne accent, so every statement could be a question. As she talks, she waves her long fingers theatrically. What's the best thing about being a woman? 'Power.' She doesn't miss a beat.

'I never imagined I'd be so public about it,' she says of her transition. 'Perhaps if I was in a different profession, I wouldn't have worn "trans" on my forehead. But there's a difference between not wanting to make a big deal of something and fearing the effect it will have on my life. But it's all out there now. If I go on a date, I don't have to worry about that moment when he finds out.'

As with many apparently swift transformations, this one was long in the gestation. Even before Pejić's arrival in Australia, she knew something didn't fit. 'There were a lot of pressures growing up working-class, with a single mum who had been through so much — I didn't want to stress her out. My mum would say sometimes: "Do you think you might be gay?" But it wasn't that. When I imagined myself in a romantic setting, it was heterosexual, but I was just always a girl.'

Australia was a great place to grow up, she says, safe, sunny, socially progressive towards refugees, but she spent long periods of her childhood 'living my life for other people', pretending to like football, hiding her Barbie dolls. Suburban Melbourne wasn't particularly progressive in gender terms — teen culture was more about Justin Timberlake and Britney Spears than gender fluidity. It was only at the age of 13 that she found out who she really was, 'with the help of Google', she smiles.

She secretly ordered illegal medication online to delay puberty, and while she doesn't recommend that course of action, she says it spared her unnecessary trauma. 'It helped me to be a much happier person today by

VALENTINO shirt,
£3,840 (valentino.com).
DSQUARED2 shorts,
£468 (dsquared2.com).
HSAMUEL earrings,
£49.99 (hsamuel.co.uk)





MARNI dress,
£1,070 (marni.com).
TIBI sliders, £270,
at shopbop.com.
Earrings, as before

CHLOÉ trousers,
£805 (020 7823
5348).
CALVIN KLEIN
crop top, £360
(calvinklein.com).
Sliders and
earrings, as before





LISA MARIE
FERNANDEZ
bikini, £240, at
matchesfashion.com.
STELLA
MCCARTNEY
dress, £615
(stellamccartney.com).
Earrings, as before

starting early. At the time, there wasn't a lot of medical support for young people. I knew that if I went through a full male puberty, it would have been a lot more difficult for me to be comfortable in my own skin later in life."

In 2016, transgender issues are much more widely discussed, thanks in part to celebrities such as Caitlyn Jenner, the singer Anohni, the political prisoner Chelsea Manning, and the food writer Jack Monroe. 'It's become a trendy topic,' Pejić admits. 'I think the internet has helped connect people who were previously isolated and then they become a force. And the categories are breaking down, too. It used to be so important to choose what you were. Gay or straight. Male or female. I think the new generation is more fluid.'

It's led some to panic that impressionable youngsters might subject themselves to alterations they later regret. 'I understand how difficult it is for parents when a child wants to do something so drastic, especially if they're under 18. But the percentage of people who go back is very small. And you have to ask, are people really going to see psychiatrists, take medication and undergo complicated, expensive surgery just to be on-trend?'

As a teenager, Pejić compromised with an androgynous look, inspired by David Bowie, Boy George and the New Romantics. Her plan was to leave school, earn enough money for reassignment surgery, and then study law or economics at university. As it was, she was scouted at 16 while working in McDonald's, and found herself living in London in 2010. Her ethereal looks attracted attention but she was reluctant to become known as a boy. 'I wanted to earn enough money to go back home, finish my transition and move on with my life.' However, as a model, a high profile is what gets you the money, and gender reassignment surgery is not cheap; her operation cost around £21,000, and she estimates she's spent around £35,000 on transitioning.

When she emerged from surgery she 'felt complete.' Was there, erm, any nostalgia for her discarded body parts? 'God, no!' she laughs. 'I was like: "Throw it away!"'

'I'd planned on a pussy shower, but actually the time afterwards wasn't easy as I had to work out what to do with my career.'

Her intention at first was to give up modeling. 'But then I thought: "You may as well own this." I've invested a lot in this career. And now amazing things are happening, which are testament to the times we live in.'

Short of being defined by her new gender, she feels for the first time in her life she has moved beyond it. 'It's been a very freeing process.' She has assembled 150 hours of footage for a documentary on her transition. And having never felt comfortable on the gay scene, she is now dating a straight New York real estate agent. 'It's been great. And the best part is that he sees me as just another girl he has a special connection with. It's nice to have that connection to a world outside activism and fashion.' She feels that dating a trans woman in 2016 is a little like a white man dating an African-American woman in the 1960s. A little edgy, a little cool. 'But I would like to look beyond that. There's more to me than this experience.'

"Was there any nostalgia for her discarded body parts? 'God no!' she says. 'Throw it away!'"

She has little time for the internecine warfare that often overwhelms identity politics — in particular the ongoing arguments between second-wave feminists and transgender activists. 'It's strange to be progressive on one issue and so regressive on another, but this is what happens a lot. Radical feminists are often highly conservative in many areas except for women's rights, and LGBT activists can be the same. Real change happens when people unite across those divides.'

But then again, this aversion to divides is written into Pejić's background. Her father is Croatian, her mother Serbian, and she was born in Bosnia — her family split up as a result of the Yugoslav wars. It pains her to see people displaced by war again. 'I've seen people who lived happily together for 50 years suddenly go to war over identity. At the time, everyone was like: "How can this happen?" But with the right conditions, anything can happen. She still speaks to her father: 'He did take some time to get his head around the sex change, but for a Balkan man I have to say he's not so bad.'

Growing up between so many categories of gender, nationality and culture has given her a sort of panhumanist perspective that's at once universal and singular. Gender, she now believes, is just one part of who you are.

'My dream was: start young, take hormones, live as a woman, try and become as passable as possible, bury your past, change your friends. Now I've realised that I don't have to be ashamed of my past. I can still own my story and it doesn't make me any less of a woman. I was born a girl, it just took me a little while to become one fully.'

And with that she heads out smiling into the English rain.

MISSONI bikini top,
£370, (missoni.com).
JOSEPH trousers, £295,
(joseph-fashion.com).
Sliders and earrings,
as before

Hair by Hiroshi
using Kiehl's.
Make-up by Celia Burton
at CLM Hair & Make-up
using Make Up For Ever
Stylist's assistant:
Eniola Dare.
With thanks to
Addison Lee.
Shot on location at
The Reading Rooms
boutique bed and
breakfast in Margate,
Kent (thereadingrooms
margate.co.uk)



A TASTE OF SUMMER



In good taste: The team at Cobble Lane Cured have a fresh approach to flavour

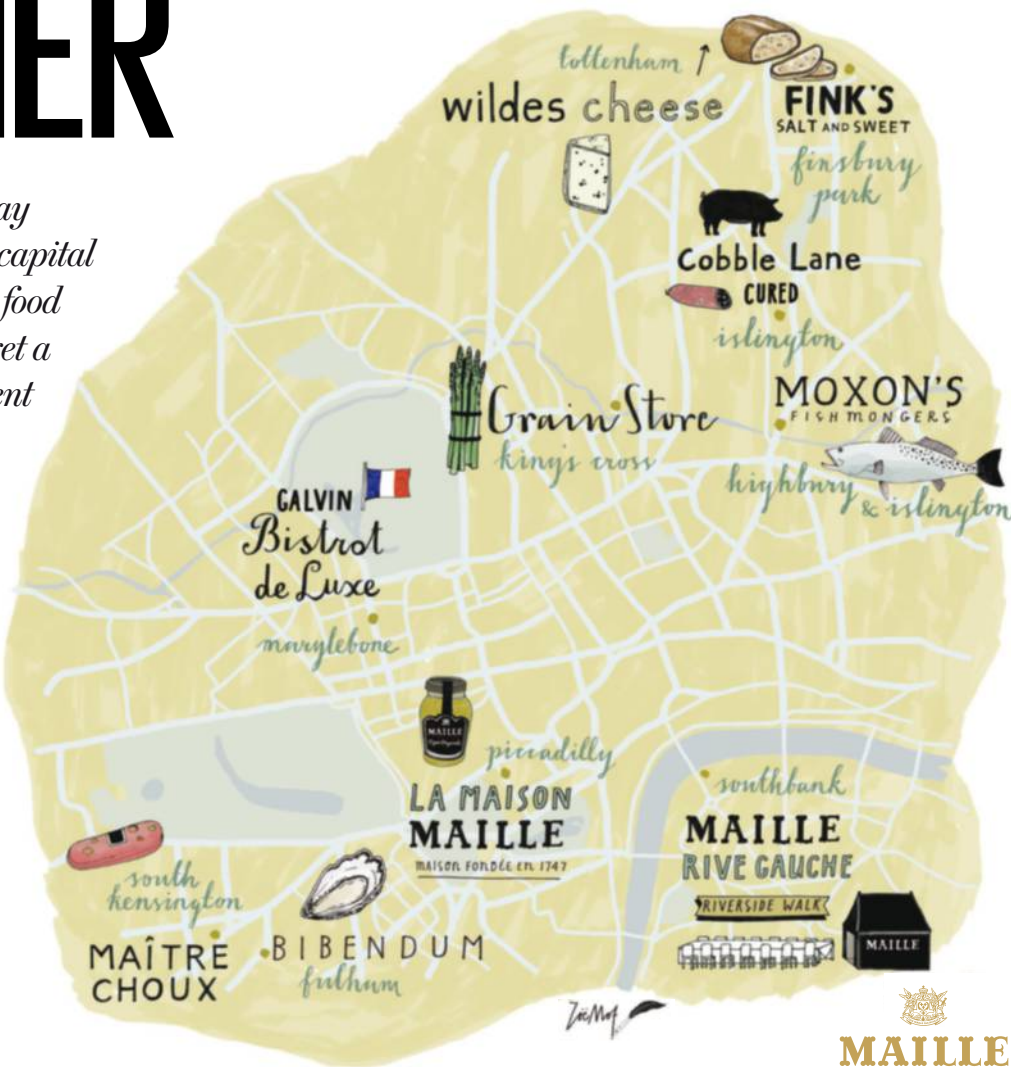


*Eat your way
around the capital
as the finest food
producers get a
French accent*

London's dining scene is world-renowned, but for two weeks this summer it's set to develop a French accent. La Maison Maille, the 269-year-old gourmet French mustard brand, will launch Fête de la Gastronomie in July, bringing together some of the capital's finest food producers and restaurants. The two-week celebration runs from 18 to 31 July, and will see eight flavour creators producing food the Maille way – with French flair.

Taking inspiration from the Parisian Fête de la Gastronomie, Maille believe London's gastronomists deserve a spotlight of their own, so they've teamed up with some of the most talented flavour creators in our city – from world-class chefs to small artisan producers – to champion restaurants, delis and specialist suppliers.

These masters of gastronomy have worked with Maille to devise dishes which combine the creativity, flavour and verve of London, the deep-grained expertise of Maille, and, of course, the piquancy of mustard. The delicious results include southern fried rabbit with mustard, and a trio of mustard-washed cheeses, which will be offered by the flavour creators at their restaurants and stores during the festival. To celebrate La Fête, those wanting to learn more hands-on foodie skills can join masterclasses at the Maille Boutique in Piccadilly. The real culmination of La Fête, however, will come on Tuesday 26 July. For



one night, London's Southbank will be transformed into Paris's La Rive Gauche for an alfresco feast for 150 people. Guests will embark on a vibrant culinary adventure led by the eight flavour creators. As the sun sets against the backdrop of St Paul's Cathedral, guests will sip Pommery champagne or Provençal rosé by the Thames, and savour a unique meeting of Parisian and London gastronomy.

For more information on Fête de la Gastronomie, including recipes from the flavour creators, visit maille.com. For details of how you can win the chance to join the flavour creators on La Rive Gauche, see page 42



Fresh Ideas: Fink's Salt and Sweet is a neighbourhood deli with a difference

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MAISON FONDÉE EN 1747



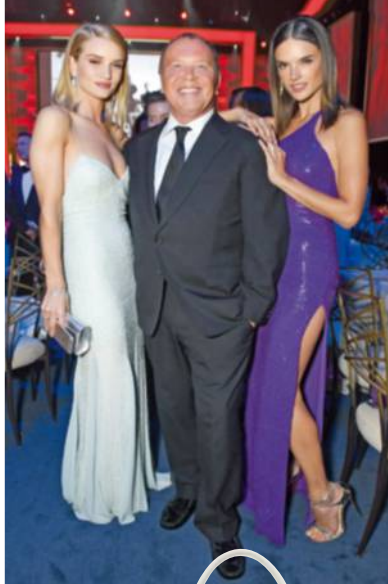
KORS BLIMIEY

He's got Gwyneth on speed dial, has dressed everyone from Anna Wintour to Oprah, and has built a billion-dollar business empire from scratch. From child model to model American, *Laura Craik* meets Michael Kors

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANDREW WOFFINDEN

It's 1pm in Claridge's and everything is right with the world, as it always is in Claridge's, even when everything is wrong. It is particularly right when you are lunching with Michael Kors in the Reading Room, the doors of which have been closed for privacy, leaving you alone with Kors, his senior vice-president of global communications, and a black-and-white photograph of Jackie Onassis. 'They've moved it,'

Kors with Rosie Huntington-Whiteley and Alessandra Ambrosio at this year's CFDA Fashion Awards, right. Jessica Chastain and Kors at the opening of his store at 179 Regent Street, below



Michael Kors
Dalia backpack,
£370



Kors observes, a Claridge's regular for many years. 'Oh, I know what I'm having. I'm

going to be very New York and change the bread, but I'm going to have a roast beef sandwich. Perfect. I have to tell you, I am definitely not a kale enthusiast. Last night, they had these wonderful gnocchi, and I said to Gwyneth: 'I'm getting up to go to the men's room. Touch the gnocchi on my plate and there will be hell to pay.'"

For a man who, the previous evening, got straight off a plane from New York, held a press conference to mark a new lifestyle partnership with McLaren-Honda, threw a party to launch his new Regent Street flagship store, then popped to the River Cafe to host a dinner for 100 friends (Gwyneth Paltrow, Jessica Chastain, Solange Knowles, Jenson Button, Elle Macpherson and Dame Joan Collins among them), Kors, 56, looks pretty fresh in his uniform of black T-shirt, black jacket and dark jeans. He is tanned, but not the deep mahogany colour of lore. His teeth are reassuringly normal: almost British in fact. 'I'm built for speed,' he says cheerfully. 'I'm either at full tilt or I go on vacation and collapse.' Ask him what the hardest thing about being Michael Kors is, and without hesitation, he says 'the calendar'. But then, you don't build a \$1bn (£700m) empire with 869 worldwide stores by farting around on Facebook eating crisps. Kors launched a womenswear line in 1981, filed for bankruptcy in 1993, relaunched in 1997 (the year he also became creative director of Céline,

a fact that may blow the minds of those who thought the house began and ended with Phoebe Philo), launched menswear in 2002 and has since added bags, accessories, jeans, shoes, fragrance, sunglasses, watches and wearables. In 2014, he joined the billionaires' club, an elite pack whose members include the Wertheimers (who own Chanel perfumes), Giorgio Armani, Ralph Lauren, Dolce & Gabbana, Valentino and Miuccia Prada.

Possibly, you may have noticed that every third woman on the Tube is toting a Michael Kors handbag. Their ubiquity goes some way to explaining the success of Michael Kors. Put it this way: if your girlfriend asks Santa for a Jet Set, a Greenwich or a Selma this Christmas, thank your lucky stars she doesn't want a Chanel. Kors' three most popular bags retail at £260, £285 and £310 respectively: a Chanel 2.55 bag costs upwards of £3,000. With stunning prescience, Kors preempted the current obsession with 'mid-market' price architecture many years ago. The current trend for 'accessible luxury'? You could almost say he invented it.

'My wheels started turning a long time ago,' he says when I ask him why he decided to make his bags so (relatively) affordable, recalling a time in the early 1990s when he happened to be in Bergdorf Goodman on the first day of its seasonal sale. He watched as women 'rushed the racks' looking for marked-down bargains, and had a lightbulb moment. 'Why am I not thinking about them? Why can't I be more democratic? Not just with handbags — with shoes, jewellery, watches, everything. The reality is that people mix up everything anyway. When I was 20, I might have literally spent a month's rent on buying a jacket and then wear it with a pair of thrift shop pants. But for a lot of fashion people, price and the idea of wearability and saleability are dirty words. As are age, size, height. I never felt that way, even a long time ago, because I did so many trunk shows and personal events. I was so young when I started; if I hadn't done that, I truly would have been designing in the dark.'

"FOR MANY, PRICE AND THE IDEA OF WEARABILITY AND SALEABILITY ARE DIRTY WORDS"

Kors' success lies in his refusal to be snobbish. Or rather, in his natural yearning to be inclusive. He is interested in people. More unusually still, on the evidence of the time I spent with him, he appears to treat them all the same. 'Even with celebrities, I mean, I can be pretty blunt with them,' he says devilishly. 'I'll say: "You look like you can't move in that. Take it off."' No wonder close friends such as Liza Minnelli, Bette Midler, Kate Hudson, Sarah Jessica Parker and Blake Lively all adore him. 'The simple truth is that if you understand people and you're curious about them, it's a huge leg-up. Whenever I talk to students or designers who are just starting their business, I say: "Have you spent time in a store? Are you

MICHAEL KORS S/S 2016





*I was made and meant to
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"WE MAKE AN AMERICAN SIZE 16... BUT WE ALSO MAKE A SIZE 0. I DON'T CARE IF YOU'RE 17 OR 70. EVERYONE'S LOOKING FOR SIMILAR ANSWERS"

MICHAEL KORS A/W 2016



on the street?" And also: "Are you only friends with other fashion people? Because if you are, it's a disaster. Get out of your bubble."

Kors' birth name is Karl Anderson, but when his mother, a former model, remarried his stepfather, Bill Kors, a businessman, she gave him the option to change his first name, too. He was a child model growing up in Merrick, New York (he appeared in a TV ad for Lucky Charms), then an actor, before finally deciding to pursue fashion, enrolling at the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York in 1977.

'I grew up with very opinionated women,' he says. 'They loved to debate. The men, never. But the women in our family would fight over clothes. I listened to all of it. A lot of fashion people, they burn their past: "My family? Oh no, I don't want to talk about them." They made you! You don't want to get them dressed? I do. I'm interested. I listen to everything. I've had the same housekeeper in New York for 27 years. She has two daughters, and they wear Michael Kors. One of them is very petite. Tiny. She told me she tried on this coat and it overwhelmed her. The next thing you know, we started doing petite sizes. We make an American size 16 [UK 20] for the runway collection, but we also make a size 0. I don't care if you're 17 or 70. Everyone's looking for similar answers. Maybe I'm old-fashioned, but I think that's my job.'

It takes a peculiar kind of snob to ignore the potential dividends of dressing everyone, as opposed to a narrow remit of slim and wealthy people just like them. Yet, so afraid are some luxury brands of doing anything to tarnish their perceived exclusivity that they seem to act in a snobbish way. Fabulous, if your brand is in rude health. Otherwise? Good luck with that.

Particularly now, in the midst of such global financial turmoil. Some fashion critics might dismiss Kors as too 'commercial', but what he may lack in creative spark, he makes up for in strategy. In the same deft way that he identified an overlooked market, he also identified his customers' rapidly shrinking time frame in which to shop. Everyone is overloaded: and so he has embraced what he calls 'punctuation points'. 'They're the signifiers of how you get dressed,' he explains. 'It's a fabulous coat or jacket, it's an amazing bag, it's the right sunglasses, it's a shoe that's comfortable but cool, and everything else kind of recedes.

Those are the look-changers. And fragrance is a signifier. It tells people what mood you're in, says something about you, finishes you off.'

The food arrives. I have ordered the lobster risotto; because *I am in Claridge's* and it will be easy to spoon into my mouth while I talk. Kors' roast beef sandwich is less acquiescent. I ask whether he would like to pause the interview while we eat. 'Don't worry, I'm a New Yorker,' he says. 'I'm a multi-tasker.' It seems an apposite time to ask him about the pace of fashion. 'The calendar globally is insane. You're just going to give everyone burnout,

and then no one can notice what's wonderful,' he says. 'We used to show 90 looks. Now, I'm like: "If this is longer than 11 minutes, I'm going to kill myself.'" He famously banned guests from Instagramming his Resort collection in June. 'People are overloaded and seeing too much,' he justifies. He still loves Instagram, though, and has over eight million followers. 'It's my giant global trunk show.'

Kors fiddles with his phone only once when his husband calls him, though he doesn't take the call. He met Lance LePere in 1990 when LePere interned at Kors' design studio while still a student at Parsons. They married in 2011, straight after gay marriage was legalised. 'We have a similar point of view, but we're different people,' he says of the man he describes as his 'right hand' (LePere is also head of Kors' womenswear).

Kors has a 26-year involvement with God's Love We Deliver, the New York charity he first encountered when a friend was ill with AIDS. Thanks to a £6m city grant (and a £3.8m donation by Kors), it now turns out nearly 1.5 million meals a year to people suffering from AIDS, cancer and other illnesses.

'How lucky am I? How could you not give back?' he exclaims. 'It's my nature. I like results. That's how I approach fashion. Halle [Berry] took her daughter to Nicaragua — she was six at the time — and as soon as they got back to LA she said "Mommy, what can we do to help?" That's the key thing. I want people to feel engaged. You don't have to be rich. People donate \$5.'

If Kors is affectionately known as a name-dropper, it's clear he does it more out of a duty to entertain than show off. A man who counts Oprah Winfrey, Hillary Clinton and Michelle Obama as clients; whose public offering in 2011 was one of the most successful in fashion history, probably doesn't need to impress anyone. No, Kors isn't

"THE CALENDAR IS INSANE. YOU'RE GIVING EVERYONE BURNOUT"

a boaster. He's a people-pleaser. 'Try the caviar!' he'd entreated me the previous evening at his store opening, after having been unfailingly polite to the stream of guests who'd asked for selfies.

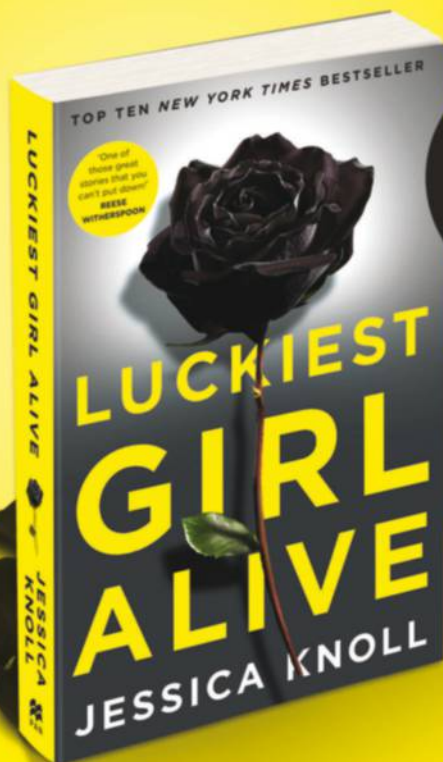
I have finished my lobster ravioli, but Kors' beef sandwich is half-eaten when our time runs out, a consequence of his prioritising talking over eating, as one must do when conducting an interview over lunch. On the way home, I think about his courtesy and charm, his sense of public duty and propriety, and one thing he said comes back to me. 'I'm convinced that it's an increasingly casual world. I don't know that we'll go back.' He was talking about the way we dress, but he may as well have been talking about everything. From manners to microshorts, the world has gone casual. And Kors is there to dress it.



Michael Kors
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**Behind her perfect
New York life, Ani is
hiding a dark past**

**One she'd like
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GOOD HOUSEKEEPING

DISCOVER THE BOOK EVERYBODY IS TALKING ABOUT

BY KATIE SERVICE

From left: KIKO MILANO solar protection serum (SPF 15), £15.90 (kikocosmetics.com). FRESH sugar sport treatment for lips, face and eye area (SPF 30), £20, at fresh.com. RM DNA renewal sheer defence tinted moisturiser (SPF 50), £40, at cultbeauty.co.uk. SUSANNE KAUFMANN sun cream cell protection (SPF 25), £57, at liberty.co.uk. GIORGIO ARMANI Maestro UV skin defence primer (SPF 50), £40 (armanibeauty.co.uk)

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Paper artist: Lydia Kasumi

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Model Peyton Manning sports the new Isadora, right; the original cut in 1969, below right



Windle & Moodie
Light Shine
Spray, £22
(windleandmoodie.com)



The Isadora

Vidal Sassoon's famous rounded bob gets a modern update. By *Katie Service*

Big things happened in the summer of '69: Woodstock, the first steps on the moon and the Beatles' final public performance, to name a few. It was also the year that Vidal Sassoon took a pair of scissors to a model's bob and drastically chopped away to create one of the most iconic cuts in hairdressing: the Isadora.

Similar to the bowl cut but chicer and with more length at the back, the style was named after the American dancer Isadora Duncan since, claimed Sassoon, it was inspired by her elegance and grace of

movement. Now the cut is back. Gucci sent model Peyton Knight down the SS16 runway sporting one; It girl Alexa Chung has been given an Isadora-style lob by hairdresser George Northwood, and last month Erin O'Connor showed off hers, perfectly sloped at the nape, at the V&A Summer Party.

This time round, the Isadora has subtle differences. To make it modern, lose the heaviness and structural weight of the original cut. 'If you're going to pull it off you need an element of movement,' explains Neil Moodie, the stylist behind the modern Isadora you see pictured here. 'It's a long

bob with the corners cut off into a rounded shape and although it's a strong cut, it shouldn't look like a helmet. It should look like you can run your fingers through it.' To this end, he misted Windle & Moodie Light Shine Spray over the cut, a new weightless product that reflects light and provides a dose of gloss without making hair look old-fashioned (or even worse, greasy).

Although the Isadora may look like a one-trick pony, it's surprisingly versatile. Blow-dry it straighter for an Edie Campbell-style shag or take tongs to it to replicate this season's mop of bubble curls.

WIN TICKETS TO LA MAISON MAILLE'S ALFRESCO DINING EXPERIENCE

ES

Magazine

READER OFFERS

Later this month La Maison Maille, the gourmet French mustard brand, will bring a two-week long Fête de la Gastronomie to London

La Fête will champion eight restaurants, delis and artisan food producers and see eight London based gastronomists, titled the Maille flavour creators, devise dishes using Maille mustard. The dishes will combine the creativity and verve of London with French flair.

To celebrate the arrival of La Fête de la Gastronomie, La Maison Maille will host an exclusive alfresco dining experience for 150 guests on Tuesday 26 July. The culinary adventure, La Rive Gauche, will be led by the eight flavour creators in the most stunning of settings. Guests will be served a set menu of specially created dishes at a long table running along the iconic Southbank, allowing them to enjoy mouth-watering dishes as the sun sets over the river Thames.

The Maille flavour creators taking part include Bruno Loubet's veg-centric Grain Store, the classic Galvin Bistrot de Luxe, Michelin star choux pastry specialist Maitre Choux, Bibendum at the original iconic Michelin Building, North London neighbourhood hotspot Finks Salt and Sweet, meat connoisseurs Cobble Lane Cured, urban cheese makers Wildes Cheese and master fishmongers Moxon's. Maille's official drinks partner, Vranken Pommery, will be providing their flagship Champagne and still Provence rosé wine from Château La Gironde.

To find out more about the event see page 32



To celebrate the arrival of Fête de la Gastronomie in London, we've teamed up with Maille to offer readers the chance of winning one of four pairs of tickets to La Rive Gauche dining experience on 26 July. To enter visit standard.co.uk/offers



Terms & Conditions: Promotion closes at 23:59 on 17 July 2016. 18+ only. There are 4 prizes of a pair of tickets to Maille's 'La Rive Gauche' dining experience, from 17.47 - 20.30, on 26 July 2016. The winners will be the first 4 entries selected at random after the closing date and will be contacted by 21 July 2016. Given the proximity of the event to the closing date, if we are unable to contact you successfully by 13.00 on 22 July we will have no option but to award the prize to another entrant. The prizes are non-transferable and there is no cash alternative. The dinner is a set menu and Maille are unable to cater to any allergies or dietary requirements including vegetarian and gluten free. In the event of bad weather Maille retain the right to cancel the event without alternative prize being offered. Maille UK is solely responsible for the prizes. Winners should contact Maille UK with any issues over fulfilment. Only one online entry per person. Usual promotion rules apply, see www.standard.co.uk/rules. For further information, please write to Customer Care, Evening Standard Limited, Northcliffe House, 2 Derry Street, London, W8 5TT. Promoter: Evening Standard.

FEAST GRACE & FLAVOUR

Grace Dent squabbles over perfect pudding in Hackney's revamped Marksman dining room



AMBIENCE ★★★★★
FOOD ★★★★★

It seems idiotically remiss of Grace & Flavour never to have written about Marksman in Hackney. Since an unobtrusive revamp last September, respect for the place has quietly augmented. Six short months have turned it into a reliable pit stop for resting chefs, travelling foodies and locals too slothful to reach their own kitchens.

These types nod sagely about the beef and barley bun with horseradish, the brown butter tart and the mutton-neck curry with roti. They speak respectfully of chefs Tom Harris and Jon Rotherham, whose pedigrees include a Michelin star at the St John Hotel. Marksman has become somewhere peoples' eyes light up over. At the same time, you've probably never heard of the bloody place. After all, it's just a boozer in Hackney that's been around forever, then had a lick of paint and a chef takeover six months back.

And if we're being honest, only Marksman's upstairs dining room has been tarted up. The ground floor remains the same old few-frills boozer that I've found myself in many times. In fact, it's where I had one of my most abominable first dates some years ago. One of us was newly bereaved, the other recently divorced. We met at 8pm and by 9.15pm had already had our first furious square-up. I'd have flounced out then but it was a cold evening, they had the radiators on, and like hell was I leaving my Tanqueray. So I stayed for more arguing. We now live together and own an imbecilic labrador.

On a recent visit to Marksman with the man in question, I was pleased to see that it's still a popular place for dates, casual drinking and mild



"It's where I had an abominable first date. One of us was bereaved, the other recently divorced. We now live together with an imbecilic labrador"

midweek debauchery. Many of the venues in this gentrified strip saw no option than to become fully sanitised. Marksman, on the other hand, still has one foot entrenched in East London's past, even if a plate of Tamworth belly pork with hispi cabbage costs £18.

Prices, it should be stressed, will not impress an out-of-towner. Marksman's chicken and leek pie, which serves two, costs a rather brutal £34. For this price, outside London, the pie would need to contain ethically-reared organic unicorn. Or at the very least a pastry bottom and not be, officially speaking, 'a stew with a hat'.

I quibbled like this until I tasted the rich, buttery puff-pastry lid and its tarragon-flecked aromatic innards, then I shut up. Do, please, order a side of the drably titled 'fried potatoes'; the glorious-bastard hinterworld between fondant potato and giant triple-cooked chips, they arrive in a deep puddle of burnt-onion mayonnaise. Marksman's devil is very much in the detail. Horseradish creams, home-made relishes, buttermilk dressings with dill and veg served drenched in garlic and mustard. The menu is simple, but dramatically pleasing.

A plate of smoked haddock rissoles had all the assertive slap one wants from haddock, even if their crunch might have benefited from longer in the pan. A plate of cured beef with thinly sliced celeriac and anchovy was perfect. We ordered the brown butter and honey tart to share, which is a peculiar, moreish invention. Not sturdy enough to earn tart status. Not a pretty colour, unless the silt-shaded Pantone 15-1315 floats your boat. The first spoonful resembles an underwhelming Butterscotch Angel Delight gone awry, with shades of bread pudding. The second spoonful reveals this is a taste unlike any other: buttery, nutty, delicately hoppy. The third spoonful will reveal your naivety in 'splitting' this tart, as you're being unattractively territorial. We bickered throughout the pudding, but stayed for another half hour finishing the Claret. Plus ça change. Plus c'est la même chose.



MARKSMAN
254 Hackney Road, E2 7SJ
(020 7739 7393; marksmanpublichouse.com)

1	Claret Carafe	£20
1	Buxton IPA	£5
1	Bread & Butter	£3
1	Rissoles	£7
1	Cured Hereford	£8
1	Chicken Pie (for 2)	£34
1	Fried Potatoes	£4
1	Runner Beans	£4
1	Belu Large Bottle	£3
1	Brown Butter & Honey Tart	£7
1	Cheese Plate	£5
1	Fernet Branca	£3
1	LVB Port 75ml	£6
TOTAL		£109

LITTLEGIANTEDIT.COM

A FASHION PLAYGROUND FOR KIDS



FEAST TART LONDON

Jemima Jones and Lucy Carr-Ellison find that seasonal greens and ricotta cheese are a match made in heaven



Jemima Jones (left) and Lucy Carr-Ellison

We're always trying to find new ways to celebrate vegetables — and one of the best ways is to eat them seasonally when greens are at their freshest and best. For the fashion shoots we work on, big, mixed, crunchy greens are always popular, either done very simply or jazzed-up with toasted hazelnuts and a tahini ginger dressing. But sometimes we like to produce something a little more elaborate, like this dish, which was inspired by one of our favourite bruschetta toppings. The punchy beans go perfectly with the cooling ricotta, with it's incredibly delicate flavour — and works in both sweet and savoury recipes.

This is the ideal side dish to serve with barbecued food such as butterflied lamb or crispy spatchcock chicken with charred vegetables. The creamy decadence of the ricotta goes brilliantly with seared meats. We recommend serving it on a flat dish like the one in the picture, so you can create something visually spectacular, using micro herbs and edible flowers for decoration. Beautiful *and* delicious!



Talking of seasonal eats — here's Lucy picking strawberries in Somerset. Now for some cream...



Serves 6-8 as a side

250g ricotta
Zest of 3 lemons
Truffle oil (optional)
5 garlic cloves, roasted at 220C for 15 minutes
Small bunch basil and mint, shredded
Handful of a selection of veg such as broad beans (around 10 pods), 4 asparagus (majority of ends taken off), peas, 4 sugar snaps, edamame
1 tbsp lemon juice
1 tbsp Parmesan cheese, finely grated
2 tsp Nigella seeds
1 tbsp toasted pine nuts
Olive oil, to taste
Dill for garnish
Chilli, deseeded and thinly sliced (optional)
Salt and pepper to taste

BROAD BEANS, PEAS AND ASPARAGUS WITH RICOTTA

Mix the ricotta in a bowl with the lemon zest, a good glug of truffle oil, garlic cloves (squeezed out of their skins and mashed), the basil and mint, and a pinch of salt. Mix until smooth.

Pod the broad beans and put them in boiling water for no longer than 2 minutes. Once cooled, remove skins and put into a bowl. Steam the asparagus for no longer than 4 minutes, to keep the crunch, then slice them lengthways and quarter. If you're using frozen peas, let them defrost; if fresh, put them in boiling water for a few minutes. We like to keep the sugar snaps and edamame raw, slicing thinly.

Add the greens to a bowl with the lemon juice, Parmesan, Nigella seeds, pine nuts, olive oil, most of the dill, and salt and pepper until the vegetables are well-coated.

On your serving plate, dollop the ricotta mixture, making a hole in the middle to put your greens in. Add the greens and garnish with the chilli, lemon juice and the remainder of the dill.

House & HOMIE

Give your home a fresh new look with these luxurious furniture ideas



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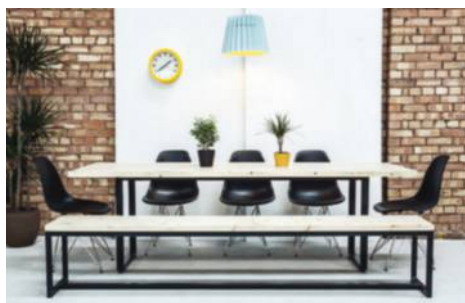
Contact: wallacesacks.com; 020 8885 6814



ONEDEKO

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Contact: onedeko.co.uk; 020 7377 5900



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At their factory in Birmingham, Rigg make furniture for domestic and commercial clients, including dining tables, coffee tables and desks. Featured is their Loop dining table and benches in solid wood which, like their other designs, is available in a range of sizes. The legs are removable to simplify installation. Delivery free to most UK locations. **Contact:** rigg.uk; 0800 651 0001



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Wallace Sacks' version of the iconic Chesterfield sofa stays true to the original, with the nail-head trim, low, bun-style feet and sumptuously soft, real leather. £2495 less 70 per cent £749 plus delivery, plus a further £25 off when you enter code **ES8JUL16A** at checkout. Offer ends 29 July 2016

Contact: wallacesacks.com; 020 8885 6814



EDEN AWNINGS

Summer's here, so there's no better time to take advantage of this great offer from Eden. You can enjoy up to 25 per cent off their impressive range of bespoke awnings, quoting **ES08/07A**. Eden also offer a range of features such as heating, lighting and state-of-the-art electronic remote controls, all designed to make outdoor living so much easier. Offer ends 5 August 2016. **Contact:** edenverandas.co.uk; 0800 157 1677



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Contact: willowandhall.co.uk; 0845 468 0577



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Contact: damp.co.uk; 01689 800 101

HOMework

BY LILY WORCESTER

Flamingo string lights, £20 (houseoffraser.co.uk)

Picnic rug, £40 (emmabridgewater.co.uk)

Umbrella by Indian Garden Company, £260, at notonthehighstreet.com

BBQ tools, £40 (lauraashley.com)

Picnic hamper, £70 (houseoffraser.co.uk)

LIFE'S A PICNIC

Summer showers? Pah, as if that ever stopped Londoners taking it outside for a little al fresco dining. This year, you'll find a smorgasbord of chic picnic paraphernalia available to help you prepare for those languorous weekend lunches in the park or impromptu suppers on your patio. To add a little bohemian spirit, swap a traditional English brolly for an intricate Indian parasol (notonthehighstreet.com has a brilliant selection). If you are prepared to pull out all the stops (and stump up £3,000) head straight to The Conran Shop for an uber luxe outdoor kitchen on wheels replete with washbasin and two gas hobs. Otherwise, a gorgeous palm frond-lined picnic hamper from House of Fraser will see you through the balmy months just nicely.

Tropical wooden cutlery, £5.50 per pack (talkingtables.co.uk)

Beach paddles, £20 (oliverbonas.com)

Outdoor Kitchen on Wheels by MoMang, £3,000, at conranshop.com

Melamine salad bowl, £8 (marksandspencer.com)

Tote by Kayu, £95, at netaporter.com

Landmann Piccolino portable bbq, £34.99, at homebase.com

Salad bowl £8, (johnlewis.com)

Drinks dispenser, £19.99, (partypieces.co.uk)

Cup, £4.99 (ricebyrice.com)

Throw, £500, (katharinepooley.com)

ESCAPE

EDITED BY DIPAL ACHARYA

The Body Camp.
Right: Ibiza Town



RUN, RAVE, REPEAT...

WHO GOES

Frazzled urbanites looking to break bad habits, gym bunnies wanting to mix things up, healthy eaters seeking a holiday that doesn't involve sangria or salami, parents in need of me-time and anyone who'd like to drop that half a stone they just can't shift on their own. Celebrity fans of The Body Camp include Lisa Snowdon, Millie Mackintosh, Hugo Taylor and Caroline Flack.

Partying in Ibiza? So 2005. Exercise is the Spanish island's new high, and fitness holidays are more popular than ever. The Body Camp is the latest to launch, a seven-day fitness retreat set on a sun-drenched hillside close to Portinatx in the island's calm and quiet north. Time to boost those endorphins, says *Amy Williams*

WHERE TO EAT (HEALTHILY)

WILD BEETS in Santa Gertrudis (right) is a raw-food temple — service can be slow but the lasagne is worth waiting for. The **GIRI CAFÉ** in San Juan is a 20-minute walk from The Body Camp; it has a pretty garden with lunch tables, and serves great juices. In Ibiza Town, the hip new deli to grab a salad is run by (and named after) **SID SHANTI**, who is something of a local celebrity having previously run the Shanti Town rooftop barbecue at the Manumission Motel. The **ORGANIC MARKET** is a healthy breakfast spot in Ibiza Town's Marina Botafoch.



WHERE TO CHEAT

105 BY LA CANTINE (below) is one of Ibiza Town's newest hotspots. An outpost of the Parisian restaurant La Cantine du Faubourg it has a vast portside terrace offering views into other people's superyachts. Another new opening is **CORICANCHA**, a great place for pre-airport cocktails (it's 10 minutes' drive away) from the owners of the ever-popular **BLUE MARLIN BEACH CLUB**.



WHAT TO EXPECT

Guests thinking they've booked a hippy retreat will be in for a shock — each day begins at 6.30am with blaring pop music and pre-breakfast workouts. The week starts with a **FITNESS BLEEP** test, a weigh-in and body composition analysis (scary stuff, but you will be hard-pressed not to shred fat over the next seven days). HIIT and boxing sessions are mixed with team games such as water polo and classes including capoeira, yoga taught by A-list instructor **AYDA ELLIS**, and a trying 20km hike. A squeaky-clean, largely plant-based menu prepared by star-of-the-show

BENJAMIN WHALE

is central to The Body Camp programme. His take on curry, burgers and pizza free from cheese, wheat and red meat will make you rethink the contents your fridge.



San Juan



WHERE TO STAY

THE BODY CAMP is located in a sprawling villa just outside the pretty village of San Juan, about 40 minutes' drive from Ibiza Town. In a previous life, the villa was one of the island's most hardcore party homes where the likes of Kate Moss apparently after-partied for days on end. An infinity pool and terraces with views over the Med now provide for more holistic pastimes. The camp offers suites, double rooms, garden tepees or room-share options for friends or strangers (not that you would remain so for long — this is the sort of place you can make friends for life).

Cala de Sant
Vincent bay in
north Ibiza



WHEN TO GO

The camp runs until the end of November. All camps start on a Saturday and continue for seven days. There is still some availability but high summer temperatures make activities such as hiking tougher than normal.

GETTING THERE

Prices start from £1,250 per week including all meals and one massage (thebodycamp.com). The easiest and most hassle-free way of getting to Ibiza is to take the regular **BRITISH AIRWAYS** flights from London City Airport (ba.com).



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MY LONDON JESSIE BURTON

AS TOLD TO THOMAS COLSON

Home is ...

Forest Hill, south-east London. I grew up in Wimbledon, and my parents and grandparents are from Battersea, so living south of the river clearly runs in the blood.



Most romantic thing someone's done for you?

When I was 15 my best friend took me to Dennis Severs' house in Spitalfields. It's an old Huguenot silk weavers' house that's been decorated as if its inhabitants have just left the room. It's influenced my ideas of how the past never really leaves us.

Best place for a first date?

Gordon's Wine Bar near Charing Cross. Its candlelit interior offers great potential for naughtiness, and sometimes you need a little bit of Dutch courage.

Earliest London memory?

My mum took me to see *The Wind in the Willows* (below) at the National Theatre when I was eight. I clearly remember the revolving stage was used as a tree trunk hiding all the animals' homes, and Richard Briers played Ratty. That's when I fell in love with theatre.



The author of *The Miniaturist* on Dutch courage at Gordon's Wine Bar, fixing London's property crisis and emulating her hero, Jackie Collins

What would you do as Mayor for the day?

Get all the empty properties occupied. There are families on waiting lists for places to live, and there seems to be private property development happening everywhere but not necessarily for people who can afford it.

Best place for a night cap?

Blacks Club on Dean Street. It's an old Georgian house with creaky floorboards, dark walls, dark corners, and velvet sofas. It has an old London feel to it.

Best piece of advice you've been given?

All you can do is your best and that's enough — from my parents.

Where do you go to let your hair down?

My living room. I love getting some friends round, cracking open the Sancerre and putting on our favourite Nineties anthems. We'll play some TLC (right), Spin Doctors — the bangers we listened to in our early 20s.



Favourite bar?

The Gilbert Scott bar in King's Cross. I go there with my publisher. Its A-pear-itif (left) is the best cocktail I've ever had. It tastes like it's good for you.

Last album you bought?

Emmy the Great's *Second Love*. I've listened to 'Swimming Pool' about 300 times.

Favourite London discoveries?

The top floor of the V&A (below). There are rooms and rooms of beautiful ceramics in cabinets.



Who's your hero?

Jackie Collins. I seek to emulate her work ethic, her down-to-earth attitude, her glamour — and the fact that she seemed to really bloody enjoy life.

What are you up to at the moment?

I've just finished my second novel, so I'm taking a break before inevitably starting on another.

What do you collect?

People, to put in my novels.

The Muse by Jessie Burton is out now in hardback and ebook (Picador £12.99/£8.99)



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by Karolis V.



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